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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1 SUBJECT Ship Salvage Plant on Daenholm
Isle, Stralsund

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1. The nationalized Ship Salvage Plant (Schiffsbergung WVB) has been set up on the Isle of Daenholm which is connected with the town of Stralsund by a bridge. Two workshops, erected in 1949, are located on the northwestern tip of the isle. A short mole has also been built there. The administration is housed in two buildings in the southern part of the island. *

2. About 600 men, 25 percent of whom are office employees and factory police, are employed at the Ship Salvage. ** The police do not wear uniforms but carry pistols. The area is not specially guarded.

3. The same type of cutters are said to be fitted out there as at the Stralsund Volkswort. The hulls of the vessels are built at the Thaelmann Shipyard in Brandenburg on the Havel River and taken to Stralsund by waterway. These cutters are powered by Diesel engines.

4. Five to eight drifters per month are reportedly fitted out at the Ship Salvage. All drifters except one will allegedly be delivered to the U.S.S.R.

5. Drifters [redacted] were observed lying there in December 1949 and January 1950. Drifters [redacted] arrived in March 1950. Drifters [redacted] have been completed. ***

6. A salvaged motor vessel of about 300 tons was on the slip for repair late in March 1950. Alongside the pier there were berthed a small motor passenger vessel, the small passenger steamer Direktor Hmcke and a revenue cruiser which is being reconditioned for the German customs authorities. A wooden auxiliary floating crane is still under construction.

[redacted] The Ship Salvage enterprise comprises the Ship Salvage plant proper, which only does repair work on small vessels, and the branch plant of the Thaelmann Yard in Brandenburg.

** [redacted] According to another report, the Ship Salvage plant employs 250 workmen, whereas the Thaelmann Yard operating on Daenholm Isle employs 600 workers. However, it would be difficult for observers to clearly

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25X1 distinguish between these two plants. From the sketch attached as Annex it
25X1 may be inferred that the administration and the dwellings of the workmen are
in the Schiffstamm Abteilung (ship crews section) barracks.
25X1 *** [redacted] Comment. According to a previous report [redacted]
allotted to the drifters built at the Thaelmann Yard. The production goal for 1949
included only [redacted] These three boats were transferred
from Brandenburg in October 1949. Four other drifters arrived from Rosslau/Elbe.
It is believed improbable that drifters will be built at [redacted]

25X1 Five to eight boats per month may be fitted out there during 1950. Data on 25X1
the production target for 1950 have not yet been received. According to information
of February 1950, Drifters [redacted] were fitted out in the Stralsund
25X1 Volkswerft. All the workers of the Thaelmann Shipyard were drafted. As previous-
ly reported, the proposed expansion of the ship building program will lead to a
considerable shortage of skilled workers. Certain materials will also be in
short supply in the near future.

1 Annex. Layout of the Ship Salvage Plant on Daenholm Isle.

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